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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/966,124	09/27/2001	John R. Moody	4747-124C2/10106589	5451

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, JOHN QUOC

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3654

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/966,124

Applicant(s)

MOODY ET AL.

Examiner

John Q. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4 and 5.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other:

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The drawings are objected to because at least reference numeral 2019 is not shown. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the compression spring and metal nib roller of claim 6 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: both the spring contact and spring clip is denoted by reference numeral 2018. This is not appropriate. Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

For clarity and/or definiteness, it appears that the semicolon (claim 4, line 2) should be a colon, that "in a" (claim 7, line 13) should be --in said--.

The claims reciting the following functions/functional statements lack recitation of sufficient structures/elements and/or essential structural cooperative relationships of

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elements to enable the recited functions/functional statements to be effected:

"wherein...dispense together" (claim 7, lines 6-7).

All claims should be revised carefully to correct all other deficiencies similar to the ones noted above.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hosomi (US 6118469).

Hosomi discloses a "dispenser" having a means to ground the dispenser, said means including a "spring contact" 51 for contacting roller/"nib roller" 18 and a wire 82 leading to a ground. The provision of another similar spring contact or a spring clip contact (spring contacts and spring clip contacts in general being old and well known in the electrical arts) at the ground/wall interface would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to releasably contact the ground. The wire is inherently deemed to be a low impedance wire or, alternatively, the use of a low impedance wire would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to increase the efficiency of discharge.

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Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over GB 2267271 in view of Byrd et al (US 5772291), Shreeve et al (US 4992907), and Hosomi (US 6118469).

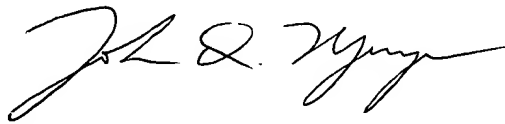
The GB apparatus has all the claimed features including first and second supports 28 and 38, "third support" 68, transfer bar 70. It should be noted that paper from both rolls are fed together when the paper from roll P is no longer connected to the core. Byrd discloses another dispenser in which a detector is used to dispense paper. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to alternatively provide the GB apparatus with a detector as taught by Byrd et al to dispense paper to reduce the transmission of contamination from one user to another. Shreeve et al teaches draining electrostatic charges from various devices by using pulleys or guides. It is also deemed old and well known to connect an electrical device to ground to help reduce electrostatic charge build-up. Shreeve et al also teaches a roller incorporating metal. The rejection based on Hosomi above is incorporated by reference. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to provide the GB apparatus with a grounding device connected to a roller as taught by Shreeve et al and Hosomi to reduce electrostatic charge build-up.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-2689. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katherine Matecki, can be reached on (703) 308-2688. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9326 (before Final) and (703) 872-9327 (after Final).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-4177.

The foreign documents on Form PTO-1449 were crossed-out because they are not in the English language. If a search report is available, it is requested that it be submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Q. Nguyen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John Q. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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